

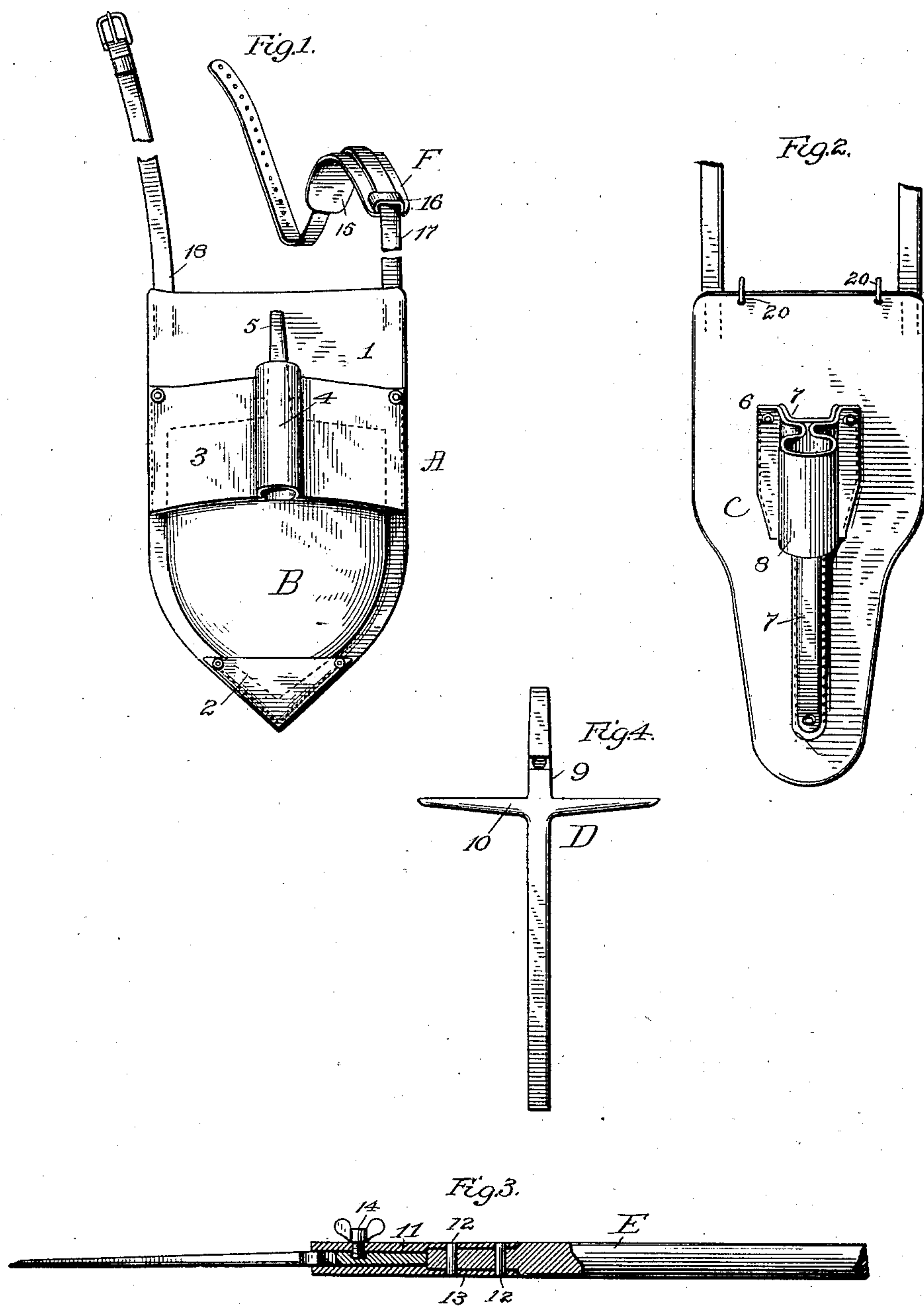
(No Model.)

H. C. LA POINT & C. B. HOPPIN.

SCABBARD FOR INTRENCHING TOOLS.

No. 314,856.

Patented Mar. 31, 1885.



Attest:
Halterbualon
J. E. Middleton

Inventors:
Henry C. La Point
Curtis B. Hoppin,
by S. W. Lacy
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY C. LA POINT AND CURTIS B. HOPPIN, OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

SCABBARD FOR INTRENCHING-TOOLS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 314,856, dated March 31, 1885.

Application filed April 25, 1883. Renewed February 25, 1885. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, HENRY C. LA POINT, First Lieutenant, Second United States Cavalry, and CURTIS B. HOPPIN, Second Lieutenant, Second United States Cavalry, at present stationed at Fort Custer, Montana Territory, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Scabbards for Intrenching-Tools; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

Our invention relates to improvements in scabbards for portable intrenching-tools for military use; and the object of the invention is to provide such tools with means whereby they can be conveniently carried on the march in compact shape, and at the same time readily put in condition for immediate use.

Our invention consists in a peculiar scabbard or case for the blade of an intrenching-tool, having a socket to receive the removable handle of the tool, and a specially-constructed sling for attaching it to the person.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of a tool-scabbard containing a spade; Fig. 2, a similar view of a scabbard for a pick. Fig. 3 shows the pick with the removable handle in position. Fig. 4 is a front view of the pick detached.

A represents the scabbard for an intrenching-tool—in this instance a spade. It is composed of a back piece, 1, of harness-leather, having oppositely-curved sides terminating in a point. At the lower point or angle is stitched or riveted the leather piece 2, which incloses the point of the shovel or spade when in the scabbard. Near the top of the back plate, 1, and to its side edges, is firmly secured a leather plate, 3, which holds the upper portion of the shovel-blade, as shown in Fig. 1. The middle portion of the plate 3 is bent or crimped into a circular loop, 4, which receives and holds the removable handle when disconnected from the shovel. The shovel or spade B is of steel or iron, and substantially of the usual flat-pointed shape. It is provided at its upper end with a notched or recessed tang, 5, and, as shown in Fig. 1, fits

snugly within the scabbard. The companion tool or pick is provided with a scabbard of substantially the same construction, but of different shape from that of the spade. It is represented at C in Fig. 2, and consists of a narrow leather back piece, 6, to which is secured a leather socket, 7, for the pick, around the upper or open end of which is stitched the loop 8 for the interchangeable handle. The pick D is composed of a straight steel blade sharpened at its lower end to an edge, and having at its upper end a tang or tenon, 9, similar to that on the spade. At the junction of the tenon and blade is a cross or foot piece, 10, forming a part of the steel blade, by which the pick is forced into the ground.

The handle E is shown in Fig. 3 with the pick attached. It is a round wooden bar having at its lower end a steel socket, 11, into which the end fits, the parts being securely held by rivets 12, passing through arms 13 of the socket, which are secured in grooves in the wood of the handle, so as to lie flush with its surface. The handle is removably secured to either of the intrenching-tools by a set-screw, 14, which passes through the shell of the socket 11 and enters the notch in the tenon of the spade and pick. When disconnected from the tool, the handle is held within the loop upon the outside of the scabbard, where it is out of the way and easily carried. The scabbard is suspended from the shoulder of the wearer by the adjustable sling F, Fig. 1. A pad of leather, 15, is provided on its outer surface with loops 16, by which it is adjusted on the narrow strap 17, passing through such loops. The strap 17 is firmly secured to the rear upper corner of the scabbard, and passes across the back and over the shoulder of the wearer, the pad being adjusted to the proper position on the shoulder to prevent the narrow strap from cutting or chafing.

To the front corner of the scabbard is sewed a short strap, 18, with a buckle, which is connected to the strap 17 in front, it preferably passing beneath the cartridge-belt. In order, however, to ease the shoulders of the wearer, we have provided hooks 20 on the scabbard,

which hook into rings on the cartridge-belt, and enable the scabbard to be wholly or partially supported by the hips.

Having described our invention, we claim—

- 5 1. A case or scabbard having sockets adapted, respectively, to support the blade and detachable handle of an intrenching-tool, and provided with a sling, substantially as described, for suspending it from the person.
- 10 2. Combined with the scabbard for the pur-

pose described, the adjustable shoulder-pad and the sling secured to the scabbard.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto signed our names in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

H. C. LA POINT.

C. B. HOPPIN.

Witnesses:

J. C. BUDDS,

D. C. PEARSON.